



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

# FIELD CROPS

## CROP PRODUCTION



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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### FLORIDA

**WEATHER:** Early August began with showers covering most areas of the Sunshine State. Soil moisture was mostly adequate in all areas. Afternoon scattered showers kept the peanut crop progression on schedule and most of the peanut crop was rated good to excellent. Mid-month brought on drier conditions for the Panhandle and Big Bend areas while some spots in the central and southern Peninsula received substantial rainfall. Growers used irrigation when available and hoped for more rain in the upcoming weeks. Santa Rosa County reported stress on the cotton due to dry conditions. Hay baling picked up in Marion County. Rainfall returned to the Panhandle and crop conditions once again improved. Cotton, corn, and soybeans were mostly in good condition and soil moisture was adequate in most areas of the State. Tropical Storm Fay made its second landfall in the State on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August causing excessive rainfall and flooding in many parts of the State. Many fields had standing water and flooding which halted field work. Sod farms reported substantial losses. Limb breakage was reported in the pecan groves and the corn harvest was delayed until the moisture levels were lower. There were concerns that the heavy rains and flooding would cause disease problems in the peanut crop. The final week of the month brought more heavy rainfall to the already saturated eastern half of the central Peninsula counties. Flooding in Nassau County damaged the cotton crop. Jackson County cotton growers reported hard lock and boll rot. Hay fields in many places could not be harvested due to standing water. Other areas reported that water was draining quickly and damage from the tropical storm was minimal.

**COTTON:** As of September 1, growers expect to harvest 65 thousand acres. Yield is forecast at 738 pounds per acre and production is expected to total 100 thousand bales

**PEANUTS:** Harvested acreage is forecast at 133,000 acres. Yield is expected to be 3,100 pounds per acre and production is set at 412 million pounds.

**SUGARCANE:** Production for both sugar and seed is set at 15.8 million tons with an average yield at 39.4 tons per acre. Harvested acres are forecast to be 400 thousand.

### UNITED STATES

**COTTON:** Upland cotton harvested area, at 7.66 million acres, is virtually unchanged from last month but down 25 percent from last year. This is the lowest acreage since 1983. All Cotton production is forecast at 13.8 million 480-pound bales, up 1 percent from last month but down 28 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 849 pounds per harvested acre, up 7 pounds from last month but down 30 pounds from the record yield in 2007.

**PEANUTS:** Production is forecast at 4.76 billion pounds, up 6 percent from last month and up 27 percent from last year. Based on administrative data, planted area is revised to 1.53 million acres, up 5 percent from the June estimate and up 25 percent from the previous crop year. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.49 million acres, up 5 percent from August and up 25 percent from 2007. Yields are expected to average 3,188 pounds per acre, up 37 pounds from last month and up 58 pounds from 2007.

**SUGARCANE:** Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2008 is forecast at 30.0 million tons, down 1 percent from the August forecast but up fractionally from last year. Expected production increases from last year in Florida, Hawaii, and Texas offset a projected decrease in Louisiana. Producers intend to harvest 868,500 acres for sugar and seed during the 2008 crop year, unchanged from the August forecast but 11,100 acres below last year. Expected yield is forecast at 34.6 tons per acre, down 0.4 ton from the August forecast but up 0.5 ton from last year. Yields were unchanged from last month in all States except Louisiana, where the yield forecast decreased by 1 ton.

**CORN:** Area harvested and to be harvested for grain is forecast at 79.3 million acres, unchanged from August but down 8 percent from 2007. If realized, this will be the second largest area harvested for grain since 1944, behind last year's 86.5 million acres. Corn production is forecast at 12.1 billion bushels, down 2 percent from last month and 8 percent below 2007. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 152.3 bushels per acre, down 2.7 bushels from August but 1.2 bushels above last year. If realized, yield will be the second highest on record, behind 2004, while production will be the second largest, behind last year.

**SOYBEANS:** Area for harvest is forecast at 73.3 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 17 percent from 2007. Harvested area, if realized, will be the third largest on record. Soybean production is forecast at 2.93 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the August forecast but up 13 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the fourth largest production on record. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 40.0 bushels per acre, down 0.5 bushel from last month and down 1.2 bushels from 2007.

CROP PRODUCTION: Acreage for harvest and forecasts of yield and production for Florida and United States as of September 1, 2008 with comparisons

Crop	Harvested acreage		Yield per acre		Unit	Production	
	2007	For harvest 2008	2007	Indicated 2008		2007	Indicated 2008
	Thousands					Thousands	
FLORIDA							
Cotton	81	65	687	738	<sup>1/</sup>	116	100
Peanuts	119	133	2,700	3,100	Lbs.	321,300	412,300
Potatoes:							
Winter	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	Cwt	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>
Spring <sup>3/</sup>	27.2	27.9	287	288	Cwt	7,807	8,037
Sugarcane	393	400	36.1	39.4	Ton	14,177	15,760
UNITED STATES							
Corn for grain	86,542	79,290	151.1	152.3	Bu.	13,073,893	12,072,365
Cotton, All <sup>4/</sup>	10,489.1	7,830.0	879	849	<sup>1/</sup>	19,206.9	13,846.0
Hay, Alfalfa	21,670	20,778	3.35	3.41	Ton	72,575	70,944
Hay, All Other	39,955	39,661	1.95	1.94	Ton	77,729	77,011
Peanuts for nuts	1,195	1,494	3,130	3,188	Lbs.	3,740,650	4,762,450
Potatoes:							
Winter <sup>3/</sup>	11.5	11.0	215	240	Cwt	2,473	2,640
Spring <sup>3/</sup>	70.2	67.7	282	289	Cwt	19,820	19,573
Summer <sup>5/</sup>	51.2	46.2	332	324	Cwt	16,997	14,946
Fall <sup>5/</sup>	1,129.7	1,041.1	396	<sup>6/</sup>	Cwt	446,807	<sup>6/</sup>
Rice	2,748	2,924	7,185	7,076	<sup>7/</sup>	197,456	206,914
Sorghum for grain	6,805	6,442	74.2	66.1	Bu.	504,993	425,572
Soybeans for beans	62,820	73,341	41.2	40.0	Bu.	2,585,207	2,933,888
Sugarbeets	1,246.8	1,057.7	25.6	24.7	Ton	31,912	26,089
Sugarcane for							
sugar and seed	879.6	868.5	34.1	34.6	Ton	29,969	30,015
Tobacco, All	356.0	356.0	2,191	2,289	Lbs.	779,899	814,907
Wheat:							
Winter	35,952	40,252	42.2	46.6	Bu.	1,515,989	1,874,857
Durum	2,112	2,583	33.9	33.5	Bu.	71,686	86,573
Other spring	12,947	13,751	37.0	36.4	Bu.	479,047	500,988

<sup>1/</sup>Yield in pounds, production in 480 pound net weight bales.  
<sup>2/</sup>Winter potatoes combined with spring.  
<sup>3/</sup>Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.  
<sup>4/</sup>Includes both upland and Amer-Pima cotton.  
<sup>5/</sup>2007 revised  
<sup>6/</sup>First forecast in November.  
<sup>7/</sup>Yield in pounds, production in hundredweight. Includes sweet rice production.